

Please vote NO on SB 990.

I am a former tobacco cigarette smoker of 10+ years and have been smoke free for almost 2 years now, thanks to electronic cigarettes. Dramatic action against electronic cigarettes could negatively impact my ability to remain smoke free today and many others. I do consider myself to have quit smoking because I am not inhaling smoke. With e-cigarettes, you are able to lower your nicotine level intake easily and comfortably. The danger of nicotine with the absence of tobacco smoke, is quite debatable. Some doctors use it to treat heart disease, please research this more if you're interested. The association to tobacco cigarettes is a problem for us.

Electronic cigarette vapor is completely different than the smoke from a tobacco cigarette. Vapor is light and dissipates quickly, with no offensive odor. You can turn it on or turn it off in seconds, unlike a tobacco cigarette. The difference is night and day. For example, when I was smoking a pack of Marlboro medium cigarettes a day, the clothes I wore that day STUNK horribly. When the clothes would go into the dirty clothes hamper, the entire hamper then stunk like cigarettes. With electronic cigarettes, if the circumstance appears, I can wear the clothes I've been wearing one day while using my e-cig, the next day with no foul stench.

I live in California and use my e-cigarette at the office. Nobody cares because there isn't a foul odor and it's healthier than smoking cigarettes. I am respectful with my electronic cigarette, so there's no reason to banish me to the outdoors.

Using electronic cigarettes in public should be allowed as it gives tobacco smokers the chance to talk to somebody who can relate to their urge to quit smoking. The Alternative is enjoyable and healthy, people should not be smoking tobacco cigarettes any longer. It's archaic and horribly unhealthy.

Since I have quit smoking and switched to electronic cigarette vapor, I am able to surf and breath like a healthy person again. I was not able to do so without almost drowning or huffing and puffing for at least 10 minutes when I was smoking Marlboro tobacco cigarettes.

PLEASE visit CASAA.org website for more information. This is an alternative we need to embrace, please help the promotion of a successful tobacco cigarette alternative, instead of snuffing it out of ignorance.

Sincerely,

Patrick Knowles